IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended)   A method of remotely interacting with a universal serial bus device, comprising:

intercepting a request originating on a requesting device <u>by interrupting processing on the requesting device when the request is detected</u>, wherein the request seeks access to the universal serial bus device;

packaging the request into an intermediate request;

transmitting the intermediate request to a servicing device having a universal serial bus controller <u>over a wide area network</u>;

transforming the intermediate request back into the request; and

passing the request to the controller for processing by the universal serial bus device.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a response from the universal serial bus device; and

transmitting the response to the requesting device.

3. (Currently Amended)   The method of claim 1, wherein intercepting a request includes receiving <u>an end-user command directed to a peripheral</u> a preliminary request and translating the preliminary request <u>command</u> into the request.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein translating involves a universal serial bus device driver set of executable instructions.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein intercepting includes associating an extended universal serial bus stack with the requesting device.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein packaging the request includes translating or encapsulating the request into an acceptable network protocol language.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the network protocol language is TCP/IP compliant.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein transmitting occurs over at least one of an Internet channel, a network channel, a wireless channel, an infrared channel, a radio frequency channel, a telephone channel, a cable channel, and a satellite channel.

9. (Currently Amended)   A method of processing a remote request to access a local universal serial bus device, comprising:

　　　　receiving a request for a local universal serial bus device from a remote requesting device over a wide area network, wherein the request is in a first format;

　　　　rendering the first format to a universal serial bus language format, unless the first format is already in the universal serial bus language; and

　　　　providing the request in the universal serial bus format to a universal serial bus host controller for servicing by the local universal serial bus device.

10. (Original)   The method of claim 9, wherein providing the request includes placing the universal serial bus formatted request onto a universal serial bus stack memory accessible by the universal serial bus host controller.

11. (Original)   The method of claim 10, wherein providing the request further includes transmitting the request to the universal serial bus device over a universal serial bus.

12. (Original)   The method of claim 9, further comprising receiving a response associated with the request from the universal serial bus device.

13. (Original)   The method of claim 12, further comprising transmitting the response to

the remote requesting device.

14. (Original)   A method of communicating with a remote universal serial bus (USB)
device over a network, the method comprising:

      issuing communication data from an issuing device, the communication data directed to
the remote USB device;

      translating the communication data into peripheral data using a device driver set of
executable instructions corresponding to the universal serial bus, the peripheral data operable to
be processed by the remote USB device;

      intercepting the peripheral data; and

      transmitting the peripheral data over the network to a remote peripheral controlling
device connected to the remote USB device.

15. (Original)   The method of claim 14, wherein transmitting of the peripheral data
involves networking protocols over the network.

16. (Currently Amended)   A remote universal serial bus system, comprising:

      a system network;

      a universal serial bus controller connected to the system network;

      a universal serial bus device connected to the universal serial bus controller; and

      a processor connected to the system network, wherein the processor includes:

            a set of executable instructions corresponding to the universal serial bus device;
and

            a universal serial bus stack set of executable instructions operable to intercept
universal serial bus request and to transmit the universal serial bus request to the remote
universal serial bus controller over the system network, which is a wide area network;

      wherein the remote universal serial bus controller receives the universal serial bus request
from the system network and passes the universal serial bus request to the universal serial bus
device for processing.

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111   Page 5
Serial Number: 10/047,481   Dkt: 977.045US1
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Title: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR REMOTELY ACCESSING UNIVERSAL SERIAL BUS DEVICES

17. (Original)   The system of claim 16, wherein the system network includes the Internet.

18. (Original)   The system of claim 16, wherein the universal serial bus controller communicates with the processor using TCP/IP.

19. (Original)   The system of claim 16, wherein the universal serial bus controller includes a set of executable instructions operable to receive responses from the universal serial bus device and transmit the response over the system network to the processor.

20. (Original)   The system of claim 16, wherein the universal serial bus device includes at least one of a printer, a facsimile, a camera, a portable audio device, a mass storage device, a mouse, a keyboard, a speaker, a microphone, a serial port, a bar code reader, a signature capture pad, a magnetic strip reader, and a scanner.

21. (Currently Amended)   A system capable of communicating with a remote universal serial bus (USB) device, comprising:

       a communications medium;

       a local processing element; and

       a remote processing element which communicates with the local processing element over the communications medium, wherein the remote processing element includes a USB port which can be connected to a USB device;

       wherein the local processing element includes a local controller which intercepts a communication intended for a USB device and transmits the communication over the communications medium via a wide area network to the remote processing element; and

       wherein the remote processing element receives the communication and provides it to the USB port.

22. (Original)   The system of claim 21, wherein the remote processing element includes a USB controller that receives a response from the USB port.

23. (Original)   The system of claim 22, wherein the USB controller sends the response over the communications medium to the local controller.

24. (Original)   The system of claim 23, wherein the local controller and the USB controller communicate over the communications medium using a network protocol.

25. (Original)   The system of claim 24, wherein the network protocol is TCP/IP.